



## State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0001

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

January 24, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Through: Ms. Lynn Canton  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Region II Administrator  
Department of Homeland Security

Dear Mr. President:

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), as implemented by 44 C.F.R. § 206.36, I respectfully request a Severe Winter Storm Declaration with Snow Assistance for the State of New Jersey, specifically the counties of Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Cape May, Cumberland, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset and Union resulting from a severe winter snow storm that blanketed the state with record and near record snow beginning on December 26 and continuing through December 27, 2010.

In response to this situation, appropriate action was taken under our State law, including execution of the State Emergency Operations Plan in accordance with Section 401 of the Stafford Act. A state-wide emergency was declared on December 27, 2010, and numerous counties and municipalities declared their own states of emergency during this period.

While New Jersey is accustomed to winter storms, the intensity of this storm required extraordinary measures which strained the resources of the state and numerous counties to maintain public safety as well as clear all of the state's roadways. The snowfall broke many of the historic records established and maintained by the National Weather Service (NWS) and National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), and indeed, the state and each county in this request surpassed per capita threshold amounts established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) (Enclosure D). The daily snowfall totals from the NWS for this storm and the historical record snowfall data from the NCDC are attached as Enclosure E.

Originally, a Winter Storm Watch was issued at 4:16 AM on Saturday, December 25, which was upgraded to a Winter Storm Warning for the following counties: Sussex, Warren, Morris, Hunterdon, Somerset, Middlesex, Monmouth, Mercer, Salem, Gloucester, Camden, Burlington, Ocean, Cumberland, Atlantic and Cape May. This warning was ultimately upgraded by the NWS to a Blizzard Warning for numerous counties throughout the state, including Morris, Somerset, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, Cape May and southeastern Burlington Counties.

This winter storm severely impacted the Middle Atlantic Region starting early Sunday morning December 26. By noon that same day, snow began falling in the Philadelphia metropolitan region and continued to spread northward for the remainder of the day. Heavy snow bands formed offshore during the afternoon and evening hours on December 26 as the low pressure system continued to strengthen. The heavy bands pushed into the coastal counties of New Jersey with continuous snowfall rates of 2 to 3 inches per hour during the evening and overnight hours on December 26.

Significant accumulations occurred throughout New Jersey. Atlantic City, for example, set an all time record for a single snowfall total of 20.1 inches. Numerous locations along the New Jersey coast received 20 inches or more, with the greatest snowfall measuring 30 inches recorded in Brick Township, Ocean County, Cape May, Atlantic, Ocean, Monmouth and Middlesex Counties recorded 18 to 24 inches of snow, with localized pockets of 24 inches or more, along the immediate coast.

High winds were also a significant factor. Some of the highest wind gusts recorded in New Jersey included 61 mph measured in Long Beach and 56 mph measured in Sandy Hook. Wind gusts in excess of 50 mph were measured across much of the New Jersey forecast area. Strong winds, along with the falling snow, created reduced visibilities and led to blizzard or near-blizzard conditions at times in various parts of New Jersey, particularly along the coast.

On January 3, 2011, preliminary damage assessments conducted by representatives of FEMA, the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management and local officials revealed that the most severely impacted counties of the State were: Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Cape May, Cumberland, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset and Union. Beaches in both Atlantic and Cape May Counties suffered beach erosion and dune loss as a result of the high winds and wave action caused by the Severe Winter Storm. Recently restored beaches suffered considerable loss of sand volume when comparing post-storm beach profiles and engineering specifications. Preliminary estimates of the categories and amounts of assistance needed under the Stafford Act are tabulated in Enclosure B.

I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the State and the affected local governments, and that supplementary federal emergency assistance is necessary. I am specifically requesting Public Assistance, including Snow Assistance, for Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Cape May, Cumberland, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset and Union Counties. I am requesting Hazard Mitigation assistance statewide. The State developed a Hazard Mitigation Plan that was approved by FEMA in November 2005. Subsequently, the plan was revised and approved by FEMA in November 2008.

The following information is furnished on the nature and amount of State and local resources that have been or will be used to alleviate the conditions of this disaster, but is not exhaustive.

During the early morning hours of December 26, 2010, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) began treating roadways prior to snowfall and activated its snow emergency team to coordinate the staging of snow removal equipment and personnel. The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was elevated to a Level 3 status at 6:00 AM on December 26, 2010, and remained activated throughout the event to coordinate the State's response to the snow storm.

Throughout this period, the NJDOT deployed crews, snowplows, trucks and drivers along with contracted teams across the State to conduct snow removal including plowing, de-icing, salting and sanding of roadways and other facilities. County and local governments also deployed similar crews and equipment. The State Emergency Operations Center hosted multiple conference calls to coordinate State and local response actions. State and local snow removal operations continued on an extended basis even after the winter storm ended, and therefore, snow removal costs continued to be incurred well beyond the end of the snow storm.

The snow became so intense at times that it was impossible for snow removal crews to keep highways and streets passable. Portions of Routes 18, 35, 71, 195, 280, and the Garden State Parkway, some of the State's major roadways, were closed due to high snow accumulation and dangerous drifts that measured 8 to 9 feet high in some locations.

Some stranded motorists were trapped in their vehicles for hours and required rescue. Rescue teams, including State Police helicopters with heat sensing equipment, were dispatched to find abandoned vehicles and search for any occupants. State offices were closed on Monday, December 27 because of the effect of the storm on travel. Transportation throughout the state was severely disrupted, including suspensions of both bus and rail service and closure of the state's airports.

In addition, the National Guard was activated and deployed to assist in the rescue of stranded motorists and to assist in other emergency transportation requiring high-standing vehicles to overcome the accumulating snow.

Twelve shelters were opened during the State's response to this storm. In total, 352 individuals have been documented as having received shelter assistance over an 84-hour period beginning on December 26 and continuing until midnight on December 29.

Our state's emergency management system documented four deaths that were related to this winter storm: a retired police officer, who was serving on the Elmwood Park Fire Company and was working in that capacity during the storm; a woman in Essex County who, after abandoning her disabled vehicle in the storm, walked to a municipal police department, experienced a seizure, and died while en route to the hospital; and two individuals in Monmouth County who apparently died from heart related conditions while shoveling snow.

The State Police 9-1-1 call centers recorded 4,104 calls for assistance during this storm. A total of 3,848 motorist aids and 1,528 motor vehicle accidents were recorded by State Police Operational Dispatch centers during this winter storm. These numbers only reflect State Police assisted motorists and accident investigations, not the efforts of either municipal or county law enforcement agencies performing similar tasks.

I certify that, for this major disaster, the State and local governments will assume all the applicable non-Federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act. Total expenditures are expected to exceed \$53,522,997.00 in accordance with the table in Enclosure B. The non-federal share of these costs is expected to exceed \$13,380,749.25 as set forth in Enclosure F.

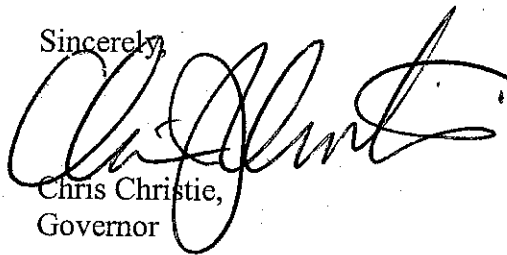
I have designated Lieutenant Colonel Jerome Hatfield, of the New Jersey State Police, as the Governor's Authorized Representative, and Lieutenant Paul Miller as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. They will work in conjunction with FEMA officials to coordinate damage assessments and will provide further information or justification on my behalf as necessary.

In accordance with 44 C.F.R. § 206.208, the State agrees that it will, with respect to direct Federal assistance: (1) provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements and rights-of-way necessary to accomplish the approved work; (2) hold and save the United States free from damages due to the requested work, and shall indemnify the Federal government against any claims arising from such work; (3) provide reimbursement to FEMA for the non-Federal share of the cost of such work in accordance with the provisions of the FEMA-State Agreement; and (4) assist the performing federal agency in all support and local jurisdiction matters.

In addition, in the event a request for debris removal becomes necessary, pursuant to Sections 403 and 407 of the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5170b & 5173, the State agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the United States for any claims arising from the removal of debris or wreckage for this disaster. The State agrees that debris removal from public and private property will not occur until the landowner signs an unconditional authorization for the removal of debris.

As detailed above, New Jersey suffered a devastating storm on December 26 through 27, 2010, and in accordance with the Stafford Act, I respectfully request a Severe Winter Storm Declaration with Snow Assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Christie", is written over the typed name and title.

Chris Christie,  
Governor

Enclosures

### Estimated Requirements for Individual Assistance

County	Assistance to Individuals and Households					Other Programs
	Temporary Housing	Repairs	Replacement	Permanent Housing Construction	Other Needs Assistance	(Disaster Unemployment Assistance, Legal Services, and Crisis Counseling)
TOTALS						

Estimated Requirements for Public Assistance  
Stafford Act. State Agencies included by county.

**CATEGORY OF WORK**

County	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Total
Atlantic		\$1,955,939.00	\$2,000.00				\$14,000.00	\$1,971,939.00
Bergen		\$4,821,551.00						\$4,821,551.00
Burlington		\$2,433,897.00						\$2,433,897.00
Cape May		\$1,296,702.00					\$360,844.00	\$1,657,546.00
Cumberland		\$834,774.00						\$834,774.00
Essex		\$4,909,122.00			\$5,000.00			\$4,914,122.00
Hudson		\$3,365,286.00						\$3,365,286.00
Mercer		\$1,879,574.00						\$1,879,574.00
Middlesex		\$4,701,468.00			\$410,000.00			\$5,111,468.00
Monmouth		\$12,353,239.00			\$260,000.00	\$6,000.00		\$12,619,239.00
Morris		\$1,984,904.00						\$1,984,904.00
Ocean		\$5,913,579.00						\$5,913,579.00
Passaic		\$1,828,941.00						\$1,828,941.00
Somerset		\$1,578,901.00						\$1,578,901.00
Union		\$2,607,277.00						\$2,607,277.00
Total		\$52,465,153.00	\$2,000.00		\$675,000.00		\$374,844.00	\$53,522,997.00

Estimated Requirements for Other federal Agency Programs

County	SBA Home Loans	SBA Business Loans	FSA Loans	NRCS	FHWA	USACE	OTHER
Totals							

Note: Provide numbers and amounts, as appropriate.

# NJ State 2000 Census, Per Capita by County - PDA for Dec. 26 - 27, 2010 Snow Event

County	Population	Per Capita	Threshold	Cat. A	Cat. B	Cat. C	Cat. D	Cat. E	Cat. F	Cat. G	Total
Atlantic	252552	\$ 3.27	\$ 825,845		\$ 1,955,939	\$ 2,000				\$ 14,000	\$ 1,971,939
Bergen	884118	\$ 3.27	\$ 2,891,066		\$ 4,821,551						\$ 4,821,551
Burlington	423394	\$ 3.27	\$ 1,384,498		\$ 2,433,897						\$ 2,433,897
Camden	508932	\$ 3.27	\$ 1,664,208								\$ -
Cape May	102326	\$ 3.27	\$ 334,606		\$ 1,296,701					\$ 360,844	\$ 1,657,545
Cumberland	146438	\$ 3.27	\$ 478,852		\$ 834,774						\$ 834,774
Essex	793633	\$ 3.27	\$ 2,595,180		\$ 4,909,122		\$ 5,000				\$ 4,914,122
Gloucester	254673	\$ 3.27	\$ 832,781								\$ -
Hudson	608975	\$ 3.27	\$ 1,991,348		\$ 3,365,286						\$ 3,365,286
Hunterdon	121989	\$ 3.27	\$ 398,904								\$ -
Mercer	350761	\$ 3.27	\$ 1,146,988		\$ 1,879,574						\$ 1,879,574
Middlesex	750162	\$ 3.27	\$ 2,453,030		\$ 4,701,468			\$ 410,000			\$ 5,111,468
Monmouth	615301	\$ 3.27	\$ 2,012,034		\$ 12,353,239			\$ 260,000	\$ 6,000		\$ 12,619,239
Morris	470212	\$ 3.27	\$ 1,537,593		\$ 1,984,904						\$ 1,984,904
Ocean	510916	\$ 3.27	\$ 1,670,695		\$ 5,913,579						\$ 5,913,579
Passaic	489049	\$ 3.27	\$ 1,599,190		\$ 1,828,941						\$ 1,828,941
Salem	64285	\$ 3.27	\$ 210,212								\$ -
Somerset	297490	\$ 3.27	\$ 972,792		\$ 1,578,901						\$ 1,578,901
Sussex	144166	\$ 3.27	\$ 471,423								\$ -
Union	522541	\$ 3.27	\$ 1,708,709		\$ 2,607,277						\$ 2,607,277
Warren	102437	\$ 3.27	\$ 334,969								\$ -
State	8414350	\$ 1.30	\$ 10,938,655	\$ -	\$ 52,465,153	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 675,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 374,844	\$ 53,522,997



## Snow Storm Dec. 26 - 27, 2010 and Record 1 day - 2 day annual snowfall by County

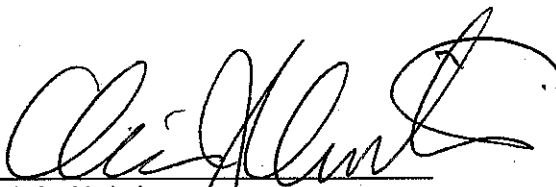
Snow Storm Data from NWS		Date	Time	Inches	Data from NOAA, NCDC		Snowfall 2 Day	Snowfall to Record	%	Station Name	Snowfall 1 Day	Snowfall to Record	%
County	Location				County	Station Name							
Atlantic	Atlantic City	27-Dec	1536	20.1	Atlantic	Hammonton 2 NNE	26.0	Not near	-29.4%				
Bergen	Lyndhurst	27-Dec	0230	29.0	Bergen	Midland Park	26.0	Exceeds	10.3%				
Burlington	Wrightstown	27-Dec	1036	19.2	Burlington	Indian Mills 2 W	23.0	Not near	-19.8%	Moorestown	22.0	Not Near	-15%
Camden	Pennsauken	27-Dec	0856	12.0	Camden	Audubon	22.5	Not near	-87.5%				
Cape May	Dennisville	27-Dec	0947	26.5	Cape May	Cape May 2 NW	22.0	Exceeds	17.0%				
Cumberland	Vineland	27-Dec	1347	18.7	Cumberland	Millville FAX Airport	18.0	Exceeds	3.7%				
Essex	Belville	27-Dec	1030	24.8	Essex	Newark WSO Airport	22.6	Exceeds	8.9%				
Gloucester	Malaga	27-Dec	1341	13.5	Gloucester	Swedesboro ****	25.0	Not near	-85.2%				
Hudson	Jersey City	27-Dec	0935	26.0	Hudson	Jersey City	26.2	Near	-0.8%				
Humtendon	Wertsville	27-Dec	1047	6.0	Humtendon	Lambertville	24.5	Not near	-308.3%				
Mercer	White Horse	27-Dec	0924	16.0	Mercer	Hightstown 2 W	24.0	Not near	-50.0%	Hightstown 2 W	17.0	Near	-8%
Middlesex	Edison	27-Dec	0935	25.0	Middlesex	New Brunswick 3 SE	22.0	Exceeds	12.0%				
Monmouth	Colts Neck	27-Dec	1103	25.0	Monmouth	Long Branch	29.7	Not near	-18.8%				
Morris	Lincoln Park	27-Dec	0800	29.0	Morris	Oak Ridge Reservoir	34.0	Not near	-17.2%				
Ocean	Bricktown	27-Dec	1350	30.0	Ocean	Tom's River	24.0	Exceeds	20.0%				
Passaic	Clifton	27-Dec	1415	25.5	Passaic	Charlottesville Reservoir	32.0	Not near	-25.5%				
Salem	Elmer	26-Dec	1558	2.0	Salem	Woodstown	19.0	Not near	-850.0%				
Somerset	Somerset	27-Dec	0100	22.5	Somerset	Bound Brook 2 W	24.5	Near	-8.9%				
Sussex	Hopatcong	27-Dec	1206	7.7	Sussex	Sussex TNE	30.0	Not near	-289.6%				
Union	Highway	27-Dec	1000	32.0	Union	Elizabeth	33.0	Near	-3.1%				
Warren	Hackettstown	27-Dec	0935	7.0	Warren	Belvidere	23.0	Not near	-228.6%				
Note 2010 data is unofficial from NWS Public Information Service					Above Data from NOAA, NCDC					Per FEMA Policy 9523.1 Paragraph E. 2.			
All snowfall amounts are in inches					**** NO Prior NCDC Record; used Dec. 2009 snowfall								
Data above from NWS Mount Holly >>													
Data above from NWS Upton NY >>>>													
10 Counties above meet the snowfall criteria per FEMA Policy 9523.1; Bergen, Cape May, Cumberland, Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Middlesex, Ocean, Somerset, Union													
5 Counties meet the snowfall criteria for contiguous Counties per FEMA Policy 9523.1; Atlantic, Burlington, Monmouth, Morris & Passaic													
3 Counties do not meet the snowfall criteria for contiguous Counties per FEMA Policy 9523.1; Gloucester, Hunterdon, Salem													
3 Counties are neither Core nor Contiguous Counties per FEMA Policy 9523.1; Camden, Sussex, Warren													
See Page 2 for analysis of eligible/ineligible contiguous Counties													

15	Contiguous Counties that meet or exceed the Dec. 2010 snowfall of the core counties.								
	Atlantic County does not meet the criteria for record snowfall, but they are contiguous to Cumberland County and does meet the criteria for a contiguous County per FEMA Policy 9523.1; they exceed the snowfall in Cumberland County.								
	Burlington County does not meet the criteria for record snowfall, but they are contiguous to Mercer County and for a 1 day snowfall does meet the criteria for a contiguous County per FEMA Policy 9523.1; they exceed the snowfall in Mercer County.								
	Monmouth County does not meet the criteria for record snowfall, but they are contiguous to Middlesex County and does meet the criteria for a contiguous County per FEMA Policy 9523.1; they meet the snowfall in Middlesex County								
	Morris County does not meet the criteria for record snowfall, but they are contiguous to Essex & Somerset Counties and do meet the criteria for a contiguous County; per FEMA Policy 9523.1; they exceed the snowfall in Essex & Somerset Counties								
	Passaic County does not meet the criteria for record snowfall, but they are contiguous to Essex County and do meet the criteria for a contiguous County; per FEMA Policy 9523.1; they exceed the snowfall in Essex County.								
3	Contiguous Counties that do not meet or exceed the Dec. 2010 snowfall of the core counties.								
	Gloucester County does not meet the criteria for record snowfall and although contiguous to Cumberland County; does not meet the criteria for a contiguous County; per FEMA Policy 9523.1; they are below the snowfall in Cumberland County.								
	Hunterdon County does not meet the criteria for record snowfall and although contiguous to Somerset County; does not meet the criteria for a contiguous County; per FEMA Policy 9523.1; they are below the snowfall in Somerset County.								
	Salem County does not meet the criteria for record snowfall and although contiguous to Cumberland County; does not meet the criteria for a contiguous County; per FEMA Policy 9523.1; they are below the snowfall in Cumberland County.								

### Governor's Certification

I certify that for this current disaster, State and local government expenditures and obligations will include the non-federal share of costs required by the Stafford Act. As stated in my basic letter, and based on information available at this time, tabulation of these estimated expenditures and obligations are as follows:

CATEGORY OF ASSISTANCE	NON-FEDERAL SHARE AMOUNT
INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE	
"Other Assistance" under the Individuals and Households Program	
Other (specify)	
Total:	\$ 0.00
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	
Category A - Debris Removal	\$ 0.00
Category B - Emergency Protective Measures	\$ 13,116,288.25
Category C - Roads and Bridges	\$ 500.00
Category D - Water Control Facilities	\$ 0.00
Category E - Buildings and Equipment	\$ 168,750.00
Category F - Utilities	\$ 1,500.00
Category G - Other (Parks, Recreational Facilities, etc.)	\$ 93,711.00
Total:	\$ 13,380,749.25
Grand Total:	\$ 13,380,749.25

  
Chris Christie  
Governor, New Jersey